

Borough of Colne



ANNUAL REPORT

for 1949

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Senior Sanitary Inspector



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health.*

*Health Dept.,
Bank House,
Colne, Lancs.*



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BOROUGH OF COLNE.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Alderman A. Burrell, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor A. Shaw.

His Worship the Mayor (Alderman G. E. Wilmore, J.P.)

Alderman W. Riddiough, J.P.

„ J. W. Shackleton, J.P.

„ H. Snell, J.P.

Councillor E. V. Doyle.

„ M. Fuzzard.

„ W. Harrison.

„ W. H. Hirst.

„ J. M. Ogden, T.D.

„ E. Phillips, J.P.,

Town Clerk—L. A. Venables, Esq.

BOROUGH OF COLNE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

R. E. ROBINSON, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

S. CAYTON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.Inst.F., (a,b,c,d,f,g,h.)

Sanitary Inspector :

A. PEARSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., (a,b,c,d,e,i.)

Clerical Staff :

Chief Clerk : J. PRESTON.

Junior Clerks : J. HARRISON.

A. WATSON, (H.M. Forces).

- (a) R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board Certificate.
- (b) R.S.I. Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
- (c) Diploma Nat. Fed. Meat Traders' Association
- (d) R.S.I. Certificate in Sanitary Science Applied to Buildings and Public Works.
- (e) R.S.I. Certificate for Smoke Inspectors.
- (f) R.S.I. Advanced Knowledge of Sanitary Inspectors Duties.
- (g) City and Guilds of London Institute Boiler House Practice Certificate.
- (h) Testamur Institute of Public Cleansing.
- (i) Examination qualifying for Assoc. Membership, Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

PREFACE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BANK HOUSE,
COLNE.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Department for the year 1949.

As it records the first complete year of working since the operation of the new Health Act, it would be natural to wish to feel the impact of the new scheme of things, but such were the Services carried out by this Borough that I cannot point out any such feature. In a small town of Colne's size, five or even ten years work gives a truer picture than any individual year.

I am grateful to the Committee and my staff for the help given during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. E. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section A

Statistics and Social Conditions

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Borough of Colne is well situated, healthy, and in excellent natural surroundings. It is 600 ft. to 800 ft. above sea level. There is good natural drainage and a plentiful water supply.

The chief industries of the area are Textile Manufacturing, Engineering, Distributive Trades, Leather Tanning, Building, and Miscellaneous Trades.

The industrial population in 1949, numbered 11,860, including 6,677 men, 296 boys, 4,599 women, and 288 girls. Twelve persons were unemployed on 5th December, 1949.

STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949.

Area (in acres)	5,939
Population	20,820
No. of inhabited houses end of 1949, according to Rate Book	7,224
Rateable value	£132,079
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£523

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

FOR THE YEAR 1949.

				Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population.			
		Total.	Male.	Female.			
Live Births ...	{	Legitimate	288	150	138	14·7	
		Illegitimate	18	7	11		
		Totals	306	157	149		
<hr/>							
		Total.	Male.	Female.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.		
Still Births ...	{	Legitimate	8	5	3	32·0	
		Illegitimate	2	1	1		
		Totals	10	6	4		
<hr/>							
				Death Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population.			
Deaths	315	168	147	*15·1

* 1949 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor, 0·92)=13·9 per 1,000.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—				Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	—			—	Nil.
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	1	3·16
Total	...	...	...	1	3·16

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

				Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	...	...	8	3	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Totals	...	...	...	9	3	6

Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	29
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	28
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	56
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	..	...	...	...	55
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	1

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

BOROUGH OF COLNE. Population 20,820.	Per 1,000 Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate.		Rate of Deaths under one year per 1,000 live Births
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death Rate from Cancer	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 total [live and still] Births	
Mean of 5 years—1944-1948	17.1	14.7	0.45	2.22	1.75	1.71	30
Year 1949	16.7	13.8	0.43	2.30	2.86	2.80	22
Year 1949	14.7	•15.1	0.48	2.64	3.27	3.16	29
Increase or Decrease in 1949 on 5 years' average—1944-1948	—2.4	+0.4	+0.03	+0.42	+1.52	+1.45	—1
Previous year...	—2.0	+1.3	+0.05	+0.34	+0.41	+0.36	+7

* 1949 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor, 0.92)=13.9 per 1,000.

SUMMARY OF THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH, 1949.

(Registrar General's Official Returns, 1949.)

All Causes 315—Males 168, Females 147.

	Causes of Death.	Males	Females
1	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers ..	—	—
2	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4	Whooping Cough	—	—
5	Diphtheria	—	—
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	4
7	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
8	Syphilitic Diseases	—	1
9	Influenza	4	3
10	Measles	—	—
11	Acute Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis	—	—
12	Acute Infantile Encephalitis	—	—
13	Cancer of Oesophagus and Uterus ...	1	3
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	9	2
15	Cancer of Breast	—	2
16	Cancer of all Other Sites	24	14
17	Diabetes	—	3
18	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ...	20	28
19	Heart Disease	54	47
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	4	4
21	Bronchitis	15	9
22	Pneumonia	2	1
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
24	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	—
25	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—
26	Appendicitis	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases	1	3
28	Nephritis	2	1
29	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis ...	—	—
30	Other Maternal Causes	—	1
31	Premature Birth	1	3
32	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases ...	1	2
33	Suicide	5	3
34	Road Traffic Accidents	1	1
35	Other Violent Causes	3	2
36	All Other Causes	11	9
		168	147

ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY during the Year 1949.

(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.)

—	Birth-Rate per 1,000 Population.		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population.										Rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
	Live Births	Still- births	All Causes.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Tuberculosis.	Influenza.	Small-pox.	Acute Poli- myelitis and polioencephalitis.	Pneumonia.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (un- der 2 years).	Total Deaths (under 1 year)	
COLNE	14.7	0.48	13.9	—	—	—	0.48	0.33	—	—	0.14	3.2	29	
England and Wales ...	16.7	0.39	11.7	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.45	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.51	3.0	32	
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	18.7	0.47	12.5	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.52	0.15	0.00	0.02	0.56	3.8	37	
148 Smaller Towns (Resident populations 25,000 - 50,000 at Census 1931) ...	18.0	0.40	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.42	0.14	—	0.02	0.49	2.4	30	
London Adm. County ..	18.5	0.37	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.52	0.11	—	0.01	0.59	1.7	29	

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows: { Total Births (live & still) Abortion with Sepsis. Abortion without Sepsis. Puerperal Infections. Others.

do. do. COLNE do. { Total Births (live & still) 0.11 0.05 0.11 0.71 3.16

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1949. *Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of age.*
Compiled from the Official Registrations.

Causes of Death.				Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All Causes :—				5	1	2	..	8	..	..	..	1	9
Asphyxia	...	...	...	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Atelectasis	..	..	...	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Erythroblastosis	...	...	...	4	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	..	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	..	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Spina Bifida	..	...	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1

The Infant Mortality figure for 1949 is 29 per 1,000 live births. This is an increase of 7 per 1,000 on the figure for 1948, and is 3 per 1,000 less than the rate for the country as a whole.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.—The number of live births registered during the year was 306. Of these, 157 were males and 149 females. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population is 14.7 and is a decrease of 2.0 on the previous year, and is 2.4 less than the average for the past five years.

STILL BIRTHS.—The still-birth rate is .09 per thousand of the population above that of the country as a whole.

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered was 315 of which 168 were males and 147 females. The death rate is 15.1 per 1,000 of the estimated population, representing an increase of 1.3 on the previous year. The adjusted death-rate is 13.9 per 1,000, the comparability factor being 0.92.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS AND DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1949.

Heart Diseases, Diseases of the Vessels and Cancer were again the principal causes of death in Colne.

Section B

General Provision of Health Services

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Particulars of the Health Department Staff are set out on page 2 of this report.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out for Colne Health Authority at the Medical Research Council Laboratory at Salus Street (Victoria Hospital), Burnley. On one occasion during 1949, samples were examined by the Nelson Health Department. In all, the undermentioned bacteriological examinations were undertaken during 1949:—

	No. Examined.
Water	58
Milk	56
Milk (tubercle bacilli)	47
Ice Cream	13
Condensed Milk	1
Total ...	<u>175</u>

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Ambulance facilities provided are adequate for the need of the district, and a full-time service is made available to the public by the County Council for medical and accident cases.

For the removal of infectious cases the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee supply the necessary services for Colne.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

General—There are three District Nurses (one male) working in the area. These are employed by the County Council.

Midwives—There are three Midwives, appointed by the County Council, practising in the area.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics—These clinics are held at Bank House, Albert Road, Colne, the work being administered by the County Council.

The Sessions are :—

Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Doctor's Session is on Wednesday afternoons,
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The sale of Baby Foods takes place at the following times:—

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday ... 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Mothers attending with children may buy their foods during the hours the Welfare Centre is open.

There are two Health Visitors appointed by the County Council visiting mothers and children in the Colne area.

The accommodation at the Welfare Clinic, Bank House, consists of one Consulting Room, two Dressing and Weighing Rooms, a Kitchen and a large Waiting Room.

THE ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC.

Sessions are held at Bank House on Monday, Wednesday and Friday between the hours of 9 and 10 in the morning.

MINOR AILMENT CLINIC.

Any morning from 9 a.m. to 12-30 p.m.

THE ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

This is held at Carr Road, Nelson, and visits are arranged on Tuesday and Friday, by appointment.

THE DENTAL CLINIC.

The Dental Clinic at Bank House is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, both mornings and afternoons. The work is administered by the County Council.

THE TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary is at Carr Road, Nelson, and is provided by the District Hospital Management Committee.

						Adults	Children
No. of cases admitted to Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	6	—
"	"	"	Pulmonary Hospital	...	...	8	—
"	"	"	General Hospital	...	...	—	—
"	"	"	Special Hospital	...	...	1	—
"	"	granted	Artificial Light Treatment	...	...	—	1
"	"	"	Dispensary Supervision or				
			Dispensary Treatment	...	...	75	17
"	"	"	X-Ray Examination	...	...	160	(Adults & Children)
Total number of cases under supervision on							
31st December, 1949							
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	59	2
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	16	15
Combined (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary)						—	—
Removed from the register during the year as recovered						—	—

The Venereal Disease Clinic is provided by the Burnley & District Hospital Management Committee and is situated at Victoria Hospital, Burnley. The service is satisfactory. Local practitioners receive information as to the times at which patients can receive treatment at the Clinic and as to where the necessary utensils, compounds, etc., can be obtained for the treatment of such patients.

LOCAL HOSPITALS.

Name.	Situation.	Purpose and No. of Beds.
The Hartley Hospital.	Keighley Road, Colne.	General. Adults 34. Children 10.
Marsden Rd. Infec. Disease Hospital.	Marsden Road, Burnley.	Infectious Diseases.
Burnley General Hospital.	Casterton Avenue Burnley.	General
Christiana Hartley Maternity Home.	Barrowford Road, Colne.	Maternity Home. 14 Beds. 2 Isolation.

HOSPITALS. (continued)

General Medical and Surgical				The Hartley Hospital, Colne. Facilities are available for operative surgery. Special department for X-Ray work. Out-patients' department for Ophthalmic Cases. Out-patients department for ear, nose and throat cases. Number of beds, male 12, female 16, children 8, babies' cots 1, private wards 4, isolation 2. Municipal Hospital, Burnley. Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Children	...	...	...	Hartley Hospital. General Hospital, Burnley.
Maternity	...	...	...	Christiana Hartley Maternity Home. 14 beds, 2 isolation, and out-patient Ante-Natal Clinic. Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, Burnley.
Venereal Diseases	...	...	...	Burnley Clinic. Victoria Hospital, Burnley.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	The Lancashire County Tuberculosis Sanatoria and Hospitals.
Mental...	...	...	...	The Regional Hospital Board.
Mentally Deficient	...	...	...	The Regional Hospital Board.
Orthopædic	...	...	...	Birmingham Regional Hospital Board Hospital at Biddulph. Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.
Ear, Nose and Throat	...	...	...	The Hartley Hospital, Colne.
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	Marsden Road Infectious Disease Hospital, Burnley.
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	Burnley General Hospital. Manchester Eye Hospital. Bradford Eye and Ear Hospital.

The Hospital Services for Colne are administered by the Burnley & District Hospital Management Committee.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS, AND HOMELESS INFANTS.

Unmarried mothers and children are catered for in Mother and Baby Homes administered by the County Council or Voluntary Bodies.

Defective children are the responsibility of the County Children's Committee.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR CARE OF THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVE.

This work is supervised by the County Council.

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE.

The Health Visitors attend the Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics and co-ordinate the work of the Maternity Home and the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. They make frequent home visits to keep in touch with as many expectant mothers as possible.

A great deal of unnecessary discomfort and ill-health is borne by sensitive women who have a mistaken belief that such suffering is an inevitable accompaniment of childbirth.

There is now no reason why such suffering should continue, because opportunity is given for free private consultations at the Clinic, for all mothers. The best time for this is about six weeks after childbirth.

I again repeat the need for emphasis on the value of Post-natal examinations. At the present time too great a difference exists between the number of Ante-natal examinations and Post-natal examinations.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN.

THE CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME, BARROWFORD ROAD.

The Christiana Hartley Maternity Home and Ante-natal Clinic in Barrowford Road, serves the Borough of Colne and the neighbouring districts of the County of Lancaster.

The accommodation available consists of fourteen maternity beds and two isolation beds. The Maternity block contains two labour wards, sterilization room, nursery, and duty room. There is also an Ante-natal Clinic, Observation Block, Kitchen and Laundry.

The accommodation in the Home has been very fully occupied. It appears, from the number of applicants refused admission, to fall short of the actual need.

Experience has shown the need for additional single rooms for the proper nursing of special types of cases, e.g., difficult labours, post eclampsia, heart conditions, cæsarean section and premature births, and particularly for the provision of Ante-natal beds.

PREMATURE INFANTS.

Premature infants are retained in the Maternity Home until their progress is equal to that of a child born at full term pregnancy. Thereafter bi-weekly visits are made by the Health Visitors.

Premature babies born at home are admitted to the Maternity Home or hospital if the conditions are unsuitable. The midwife has access to special equipment maintained at the Divisional Offices for premature babies should it be necessary.

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, CHRISTIANA HARTLEY MATERNITY HOME, BARROWFORD ROAD.

Sessions are held bi-weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for patients seeking admission to the Home. In addition, sessions are held on Monday afternoons by the County Midwives.

The Clinic is situated to the East of the main building of the Home, from which it is entirely separate. The accommodation consists of Waiting Room and Sanitary Accommodation, Dressing Cubicles, Laboratory and two Consulting Rooms.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

One Maternal death occurred in the Borough during the year.

Table showing the total number of Births and Stillbirths, and the total number of Maternal deaths for the last ten years.

Year.	Totals including County Cases and other Areas.		Borough of Colne only.	
	No. of Births.	No. of Maternal Deaths.	No. of Births.	Maternal Deaths.
1939	396	3	253	1
1940	340	2	232	2
1941	400	1	270	1
1942	425	3	275	3
1943	415	1	307	1
1944	401	1	296	1
1945	499	2	288	1
1946	672	—	371	—
1947	741	—	422	—
1948	657	1	357	1
1949	602	1	316	—

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

(Under Part VII of the Public Health Act, 1936).

The welfare of children has long been the concern and interest of this local authority and, in spite of the powers to act being transferred to the County Council, the interest is always present.

Information of cases of neglect or cruelty, or both, reaches the Department through very many channels. These are usually School Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers, Attendance Officers, and on many occasions through neighbours. All rumours or reports are investigated and the Health Visitor or Sanitary Inspector is sent out to check these reports. Warnings are then issued and close watch is kept on the case or cases. If all this fails to produce the desired effect, the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector is communicated with, and he visits the house. Usually, this has a salutary effect, but should this fail, the case is taken before the Magistrates. All cases where warnings have been issued or there has been a suspicion of neglect are kept under close supervision.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

Homes first registered during the year	...	...	Nil
Homes on the register at the end of the year	...	...	Nil

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two Day Nurseries under the administration of the County Council.

The one at North Valley Road accommodates 70 children, and that at Haverholt 50 children.

Both these Nurseries have been fully occupied.

Section C

List of Local Acts and Regulations

LIST OF LOCAL ACTS, SPECIAL LOCAL ORDERS,
GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS AND BYE-LAWS
IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

Colne and Marsden Local Board Act, 1881.

Colne Corporation Act, 1897.

Colne Corporation Act, 1905.

Colne Corporation Act, 1921.

Colne Corporation Act, 1933.

Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, Section 115.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890. (Except Sections 10 to 27, 32, 33, 36 and 47 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).

Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890. (Except Sections 5 to 15 and 17 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).

Local Government Boards Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 14) Act, 1903.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (Sections 17 22, 81, 85, 86 and 94).

Public Health Act, 1925, Part 2 (Except Section 20 repealed by P.H.A. 1936).

Housing of the Rural Workers Scheme approved by the Minister of Health, 12th February, 1929, as amended by Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1942.

Borough of Colne (Offensive Trades) Confirmation Order, 1932.

The Colne (Fish and Greengrocery Shops) Weekly Half-day Holiday Order, 1946.

Stationers' and Booksellers' Exemption Order, 1913.

Closing Order for Butchers' Shops, 1921.

The Colne (Fried Fish and Chip Shops) Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1939.

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS :—

New Streets, 1925.

Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, 1908.

„ „ „ Houses-let-in Lodgings, 1925.

„ „ „ Private Slaughterhouses, 1908.

Public Slaughterhouse Bye-laws, 1933.

„ „ „ (Regulations), 1932.

Bye-laws with respect to Offensive Trades, 1934.

„ „ „ „ Fouling of Footways by Dogs, 1936.

Building Bye-laws, 1939.

Section D

Prevalence and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Two hundred and fifty-eight cases of infectious disease (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year, 122 of these being Measles. One hundred and eight cases of Scarlet Fever were notified, these being generally of a mild type. In 3 instances diagnosis was not confirmed. One case of Diphtheria was notified. One death occurred, the cause being Acute Influenzal Pneumonia (female—52 years).—Scarlet Fever was most prevalent during the first Quarter, and the smallest number of cases notified was during the third Quarter. Measles was most prevalent during the first four months, when altogether 115 cases were notified. Only one case was notified during the latter half of the year.

SMALLPOX.—The vaccinated population in Colne is far too low. It invites a serious state of affairs should an epidemic break out. I strongly recommend parents to have their babies vaccinated as early as possible after birth.

IMMUNISATION CLINIC.

DIPHTHERIA.—Clinics for active immunisation against Diphtheria are held at the School Clinic at Bank House.

Diphtheria Toxoid Alum Precipitated is the prophylactic used.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

Adequate accommodation is provided at the Marsden Road Infectious Diseases Hospital for all cases of infectious disease by arrangement with the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee.

Eighty-two patients were admitted during the year.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1949.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.										HOSPITAL.	
	Total cases at all ages.	AGE PERIODS—YEARS.										Total Deaths
		0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over	Age unknown	
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	105	1	10	31	46	10	3	3	1	—	77	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(excluding Para-typhoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-typhoid Fever	122	6	39	31	44	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles (excluding Rubella)	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	11	1	—	2	—	1	1	4	1	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	—	—
Malaria (contracted abroad)	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	255	8	51	66	91	15	4	12	4	4	82	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

It has not been found necessary to enforce the provisions of the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with reference to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, employed in the milk trade, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1949.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 year	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
5 years .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 „	1	4	...	1	...	...	...	...
20 „	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
25 „ .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 „	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
45 „	2	..	...	...	2	...	...	...
55 „	4	...	...	...	4	2	...	...
65 and upwards .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
	10	7	2	2	7	4	...	...
	17		4		11		0	

The notification of Tuberculosis is reasonably efficient.

Section E

Sanitary Circumstances

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector :

Dr. R. E. Robinson,
Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Colne.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the Sanitary Inspection of the Borough for the year 1949 in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

INTRODUCTION :

In a report of this size it is not possible to comment on every activity within the purview of the Environmental Health Service. The statistics and brief notes given in the following pages must speak for themselves. Suffice it for me to mention three matters which are of special significance.

MILK AND DAIRIES :

On October 1st the supervision of milk production on the farm became the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture and local authorities retained the duty of controlling the distribution and sale of milk. They also retain their duties at farms in connection with water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal, building construction and housing. The new provisions with regard to infection of milk are also administered by local authorities whether at dairy farms or other dairy premises.

Whether the new specialist officials can achieve more than their predecessors, given the advantage of the new powers, remains to be seen.

HOUSING ACT, 1949 :

In most towns, and Colne is no exception, there are many old houses, structurally perfectly sound, but which lack all modern amenities. It is precisely this type of house it is hoped to improve under this new Act. It is proposed, by a system of Grants to raise the standard of accommodation of those who will, inevitably, have to live in accommodation of this sort for many years; to raise their standard nearer that of the new houses. The labour and materials required will not affect the house building programme and the improvement of the best of our existing houses is good policy and in the long term may reduce the demand for new houses, because "all modern conveniences" will be more widely available.

FOOD HYGIENE :

This subject continues prominently before the public eye. The importance of the subject cannot be over emphasised and the public is gradually becoming food hygiene conscious but not sufficiently aroused to demand that the abuses, which we all see and know, are remedied.

The year closed with a decision of the Town Council to give active publicity to matters of hygiene especially in relation to the handling of food, to provide free washing facilities for all who wish to use them in the Colne Lane Public Conveniences, and to seek the approval of the Minister of Food for adoption of bye-laws relating to Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and the Sale of Food in the Open Air.

A programme of extensive abattoir improvements was also initiated.

WATER.

TOWN'S WATER:

The town's water is obtained from a catchment area of 780 acres near at hand on Emmott Moor. The Laneshaw Reservoir has a capacity of 75 million gallons.

The reservoir is well situated, 858 feet above Ordnance Datum.

Corn Close Borehole, with pumping plant, was completed in 1937. The capacity of the borehole is 40,000 gallons per hour.

The supply is adequate and of excellent quality, giving satisfactory bacteriological and chemical analysis.

The following examinations were made :—

(a) Raw Water	Bacteriological Examinations	19
	Chemical Analyses	2
(b) Water going into supply, where treatment is installed ...	Bacteriological Examinations (before superchlorination)	60
	(after superchlorination) ...	48
	Chemical Analyses	6

During 1942 chlorination plant was installed in the Laneshaw Filter House for treating both the low level and high level supplies.

Filtration is carried out by Bell and Candy Mechanical Pressure Filters.

There has been no form of contamination. A complete reorganisation of the chemical dosage has taken place, including new pumps giving pro-rata dosage, and standardisation of solution strengths. All water is chlorinated.

Attention is being given to the neutralisation of plumbo-solvency by blending the deep spring and upland surface waters. Alkalinity has been increased to counteract the natural acidity of the water. Ten samples were analysed, and very slight plumbo-solvency was found.

No. of houses, and business premises, on constant direct supply...	7876
No. of houses supplied by stand pipe	—

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES:

Classification of 57 samples taken during 1949 from 55 private supplies is as follows:—

		Presumptive Coliform Count per 100 millilitres.	Number.
Class I	Highly satisfactory	Less than 1	17
Class II	Satisfactory	1-2	2
Class III	Suspicious	3-10	6
Class IV	Unsatisfactory but tolerable in the circumstances	11-50	17
Class V	Unfit supplies	over 50	15
			<hr/> 57 <hr/>

Generally these supplies feed isolated farmsteads and cottages. The classification, though based on one sample only, is broadly reliable, especially if a dividing line be drawn between Classes I, II, III, and IV and V. Though this is somewhat empirical there are no previous surveys of this kind which can be taken into consideration.

Of the thirty-two samples in Classes IV and V, twelve are higher than 770 feet above sea-level and, therefore, cannot be supplied from Laneshaw Bridge Reservoir without a booster pump.

Two of the remaining farms produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk, and the reports have been passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who are co-operating.

In no case can compulsory action be taken under Public Health Act, 1936, without considerable cost to the local authority, but improvements may be obtained by attention to copings, lining, and covering of wells and tanks, or the substitution of iron pipes for open-jointed field drains. Action is being urged along these lines.

The supply to sixteen back-to-back houses at Carry Bridge was "suspicious" in quality and very inadequate in quantity, and the owner has substituted town's water on his own initiative.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There are approximately 40 miles of sewers within the area.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The arrangements for sewage disposal are concentrated at the Sewage Purification Works in Burnley Road. The plant and methods of treatment have again been satisfactory during the year, and the standard has been maintained to the satisfaction of the Lancashire Rivers Board. Preliminary arrangements are being made for the construction of new filter beds, Lumus tanks, etc. A small laboratory is used for the testing of sewage and effluents.

The extension of the sewerage system to those areas where a water supply is available, and replace pails and septic tanks with clean water closets, would be a scheme worthy of consideration.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The Lancashire Rivers Board is responsible for the supervision and protection of the rivers and streams in the area and attention has been directed to cases of river pollution on a few occasions.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There were 70 pail closets and 41 tanks or privies still in use in the area at the end of the year. In most of these instances there is an adequate supply of water, but no sewer available. Conversions to the water carriage system would necessitate the provision of a septic tank, but due caution should be taken before installations of these are carried out, to ensure that land and ditches are not fouled by the effluents therefrom.

The conversion of 59 waste-water closets into fresh water closets has been carried out during the year under review. The Corporation grant of £3 per conversion has been continued.

At the end of the year there were still approximately 3,379 waste-water closets within the Borough.

• Conversions and additions in 1949:—

Waste W.C.'s to fresh W.C.'s	...	...	59
Waste W.C.'s abolished	...	...	13
Tank Closets to fresh W.C.'s	...	...	—
Pail Closets to fresh W.C.'s	...	...	—
Pail Closets abolished	...	...	—
Additional fresh W.C.'s provided..	...	...	64
Water Closets abolished	...	...	—

Various types existing at the end of 1949.

	F.W.C's	W.W.C's	Tanks	Pails
Dwellinghouses ...	4143	3339	39	70
Factories, Offices and Lock-up Shops	825	27	—	—
Sunday Schools and Institutions ...	138	3	2	—
Day Schools ...	132	9	—	—
Public Buildings, Offices, etc. ...	141	10	—	—
Totals ...	5379	3388	41	70

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse is collected from (approximately 7350) bins at houses and other buildings, and is transported in four Karrier Bantam refuse collection vehicles. A horse and cart is hired for short journeys and a Highways Department wagon is used for relief work.

Street cleansing is carried out by a Karrier Motor Sweeper and collectors, working on the "beat" system with "Orderly" trucks.

Gullies are emptied by a "Karrier" Mechanical Gully Emptier.

The disposal of refuse is by a four-cell furnace of the top-feed type at the Destructor Works and by controlled tipping.

A Salvage Scheme has been in operation since 1940, and up to the end of March, 1950, 5723 tons of material at a value of £19,907 had been recovered and sold.

Kitchen waste is sold raw and is heat-treated by the customer before being used as animal food.

Pail closets are emptied by Colne Corporation at the owners request.

This Service is administered by the Borough Engineer to whom I am indebted for most of this information.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

The following is a summary of the 3975 inspections made during the year :—

Houses re defects (complaints, etc.)	...	...	1737
" re Infectious Disease	...	...	117
" re dirty/verminous conditions	...	...	58
" re Tuberculosis	...	...	8
" inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	78
" inspected re overcrowding	...	...	9
" re Corporation house tenancies	...	...	101
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	5
Drains inspected and/or tested	...	...	361
Sewers inspected and/or tested	...	...	3
Factories with power	...	...	130
Factories without power	...	...	13
Workplaces (general)	...	...	3
Workplaces (offices)	...	...	8
Smoke Observations	...	...	107
Visits to premises re smoke emissions, etc.	...	...	8
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	64
Bakehouses	...	...	65
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	52
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	24
Cafe and Canteen premises	...	...	13
Food Shops and Warehouses	...	...	126
Premises re making-up of meat products	...	...	5
Slaughterhouses	...	...	443
Licensed Premises	...	...	39
Cesspools	...	...	1

Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	4
Stable Premises	...	...	...	...	1
Keeping of poultry, animals, etc.	...	...	...	...	10
Visits re Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	82
Offensive Trades and Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	6
Schools	...	...	...	...	23
Cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	...	3
Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	14
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	19
Formal Samples Purchased	...	...	...	...	60
Informal Samples Purchased	...	...	...	...	47
Bacteriological Samples—Water	...	...	...	...	58
" " Milk	...	...	...	...	56
" " Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	13
" " Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	1

3975

ADDITIONAL SPECIAL VISITS.

Rodent Operative : No. of Visits	...	...	...	...	526
Disinfecting and Stoving Houses after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	103
" " Schools	...	...	...	...	—
" " other Buildings	...	...	...	...	1
" " Vehicles	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Beds Disinfected by Steam (Including Bedding)	...	...	...	...	4

DEFECTS REMEDIED & SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Defective chimney flues remedied	...	...	...	...	...	6
Chimney Stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
External walls pointed and rendered free from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	27
External doors and fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	18
Yards repaired or resurfaced	...	...	...	...	...	85
Walls and ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	63
New windows provided or repaired and made to open	...	...	...	...	...	26
Wood floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
New concrete floors provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hot water service installed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Baths provided	...	...	...	...	...	8
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	8
Modern fireplaces provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water supply improved or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	21
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
New Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
Water service pipes to W.C.'s repaired	...	...	...	...	...	11
W.C. cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6

Water closet buildings repaired	..	...	...	...	...	26
Tipplers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Septic tanks cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	—
Waste water closets converted or abolished under Corporation's						
Grant Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	67
Soil pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
New W.C. pedestals fixed	...	..	...	...	...	7
Eaves gutters and fall pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	104
Sink waste pipes trapped or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
New drains constructed	...	...	...	...	...	69
Drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	47
Drains opened out for inspection	...	...	...	...	..	84
Drains cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	62
Defective dustbins replaced	...	...	...	...	...	153
Houses sprayed with insecticidal fluid	...	...	...	...	...	21
Schools	„	„	„	„	...	—
Houses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Bedding washed and cleansed	..	...	...	...	...	4
Animals removed from dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	..	...	...	4
Rodent infested premises dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	114
Rent Book omissions	...	...	...	...	...	11

TABLE OF NUISANCES RECORDED AND ABATED.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	282
„ „ informal notices served	...	...	...	279
„ „ statutory notices served	...	...	...	66
„ „ nuisances discovered	...	...	...	384
„ „ „ outstanding from 1948	...	...	...	125
„ „ „ abated	...	...	...	412
„ „ „ carried forward to 1950	...	...	...	97

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

* Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
FACTORIES with mechanical power	130	8	—
FACTORIES without mechanical power	13	—	—
OTHER PREMISES under the Act (including works of building and Engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises).	—	—	—
TOTAL	143	8	—

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { insufficient	4	1	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective ..	6	5	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	1	1	1	—
(Not including offences relating to Outwork).				
Total	11	7	1	—

RODENT CONTROL.

Eighty-two inspections were made to alleged rat infested premises by Sanitary Inspectors. The technique advised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is carried out in all cases of infestation.

During the year 526 visits were made by the Rodent Operative to 114 infested premises.

The entire sewer system of the town is now treated twice yearly for the destruction of rats living therein. Experience shows that most infestations are associated with defective sewers or drains. Consequently, the poisoning of rats in sewers, though limited by the fact that baiting is only practicable at the manholes, materially reduces the number of rats on the surface.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Five visits were paid during the year to this type of dwelling. No action was taken.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Borough.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The offensive trades carried out in Colne are:—

Tripe Boiler 1; Tanners 3; Leather Dressers 4.

Six inspections were made of offensive trades and marine stores. These businesses have been carried on without complaint during the year.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Shop and Office workers number about eighty per cent of all employed persons, other than those engaged in industrial or domestic work. The Public Health Act, 1936, and the Shops Acts are deliberately framed to promote the health and well-being of this group of workers, but, although a total of 228 inspections were made to shops, and 8 to offices, there is still a vast amount of inspectorial work to be done in the matter of temperature, lighting and ventilation, sanitary accommodation and hours of employment in shops. The number of offices is virtually unknown.

Two Statutory and 6 Informal notices were served with reference to sanitary conveniences.

CLOSING OF SHOPS.—Forty-seven general inspections were made after closing hours, and it was noted that the regulations were generally being observed.

ANALYSIS OF SHOPS WITHIN THE BOROUGH.

Animal and Bird Foods ...	2	Milk Purveyor ...	1
Antiques ...	1	Music Dealer ...	2
Arts and Crafts ...	1	Massage and Chiropody ...	1
Brushmaker ...	1	Needlecraft ...	1
Butchers ...	34	Newsagents and	
Builders' Merchants and		Booksellers ...	23
Fire-range Dealers ...	4	Painters and Decorators ...	16
Chemists ...	8	Photographers ...	2
Cloggers and Boot and		Picture Framers ...	2
Shoe Repairers ...	26	Plumbers ...	11
Confectioners, Cafes...	26	Printers ...	4
Cycle Dealer ...	2	Radio Relay Service ...	2
Dry Cleaners ...	4	Sports Outfitters ...	1
Fancy Goods ...	1	Sweets ...	14
Fish Friers ...	19	Tailors and Outfitters ...	13
Florists ...	4	Tobacconists ...	3
French Polishers ...	1	Toys ...	1
Funeral Service ...	1	Tripe Sellers ...	2
Furnishers (House) ...	18	Wardrobe Dealers ...	4
Gas Appliances ...	1	Wine and Spirit Merchants ...	2
Garages ...	17	Wireless and Electrical Equip.	10
General Store ...	3		—
Glass and China Wear ...	2		503
Greengrocers...	17	Vacant Shops ...	53
Grocers and Mixed ...	128		—
Hairdressers (Ladies) ...	13		556
„ (Men) ...	14		—
Herbalists ...	1	Market Hall :	
Ironmongers and		Shops...	18
Hardware ...	6	Stalls ...	76
Jewellers and Opticians ...	3	Cafes ...	3
Ladies' Wear...	28	Vacant ...	—
Leather and Grindery ...	1		—
Lending Library ...	1		97
		Grand Total ...	653

The foregoing figures should be studied carefully by shopkeepers and prospective shopkeepers. They amount to approximately one occupied shop to every 34 persons, men, women and children, or about one shop to every 12 inhabited houses. It is true that there is a floating population attracted by the covered market and shopping facilities generally and a country population which comes into the town because of the existence of a cattle market but these non-resident buyers do not reach all parts of the town.

“Mixed” businesses are steadily increasing in number and in the variety of their “lines.” In the interest of cleanly practices in the handling, storage and sale of food this type of business is to be deprecated unless we are to have a wide extension of the system of pre-packing of food in moisture and odour proof wrappers for sale unopened and as received by the shopkeeper.

CAMPING SITES.

No applications were received for the use of sites in the area for camping purposes.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One hundred and seven smoke observations were made, and in five instances it was found necessary to report the existence of a smoke nuisance to the management of the firms concerned. In one case the mechanical stokers have been renewed and a more satisfactory type of fuel is being used. In another case repairs have been carried out in the boiler house, and advice has been given in these and all other instances, where necessary, to reduce the emission of dense and moderate smoke to a minimum. A survey of all the boiler house plants in the Borough is being done and will be completed early in 1950. It is hoped to be able to arrange Evening Classes in Boiler House Technique in the near future for the benefit of the engineers and stokers.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public. The Corporation owns Public Baths and Swimming Pools, which were opened in 1909.

They consist of the following :—

An adult swimming pool, children’s swimming pool, shower and foot baths, with dressing cubicles, sanitary accommodation, and seats for spectators. There is also a series of medicated baths.

DISINFESTATION.

Disinfestation is here taken to include all insects and parasites.

Private houses are inspected and disinfested upon complaint of infestation from the owner or occupier, and spraying and dusting is carried out according to circumstances with removal of wallpaper in severe bug infestations.

The following treatments were carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors :—

Council Houses	Other Houses	Insecticide Used.
5	7	D.D.T. in kerosene.
4	3	“Gammexane” Spray.
1	—	“Gammexane” Powder

CORPORATION HOUSES—INCOMING TENANTS.

In January a system was introduced whereby both the personal effects and the premises of prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for vermin, and treatment arranged as may be found necessary. The following is a record of the work done in this respect :—

Houses and effects inspected for vermin	...	...	78
Houses where vermin found	...	...	5
Disinfestation treatment carried out by this department			5

SCHOOLS.

Twenty-three inspections were made of the fourteen County Schools and the one private School in the Borough.

A survey of the Sanitary Accommodation in all these schools was made in December and a report was prepared and submitted to the Health Committee. A summary of the Principal Deficiencies was also submitted, being based on the School Premises Amending Regulations issued by the Minister of Education. In most cases the Sanitary Accommodation was insufficient and in some cases very unsatisfactory. In two schools only is hot water provided on the existing lavatory basins. In others a plentiful supply of hot water is available for washing up dinner crockery, but although the supply pipe is carried behind the childrens' wash basins it is not tapped to supply hot water for hand washing. A statement of the Principal Deficiencies was sent to the head teacher of each respective school, and the matter is under consideration by the Education Authority.

Washing facilities, including hot water, are more than ever necessary considering the greatly increased number of scholars taking meals in schools.

Generally, in sanitary and washing facilities the schools are ill equipped.

LICENSED HOUSES.

Thirty-nine inspections were made of the 22 Licensed Houses within the Borough. Eight informal notices were served with regard to the unsatisfactory Public Sanitary Accommodation, and in five of these instances the requirements of the notices have been complied with. The following improvements were effected :—

Automatic flushing apparatus fixed	...	...	...	4
Yard paving re-surfaced	...	...	...	2
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	...	1
New washing facilities provided	...	...	...	1

In addition, in one case new inside Sanitary Accommodation was provided for both Males and Females, voluntarily.

In general all these premises have been found to be clean and of a satisfactory standard.

PAINLESS DESTRUCTION OF DOGS AND CATS.

A lethal chamber was provided in May at Bank House, where injured or unwanted dogs and cats can be painlessly destroyed by electrical apparatus which has the full approval of the R.S.P.C.A. This service is available during normal office hours, on payment of one shilling for each animal. The following number of animals have been destroyed since the unit was installed :—

Dogs	...	...	...	...	106
Cats	...	...	...	...	101
					<hr/>
Total (for 7 months)	...	...	...	...	207

Section F

Housing

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b) ...	...	...	40
(i) By the Local Authority ...	...	...	39
(ii) By other Local Authorities ...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons ...	...	...	1
(b) With state assistance under the Housing Act :—			
(i) By the Local Authority ...	...	...	39
(ii) By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	—

Total Number of New Houses built by the Local Authority under Various Acts, to the end of 1949.

(1) Housing Act 1919 ...	...	...	56
(2) Housing Act 1924 ...	...	...	442
(3) Housing Act 1925, Part III ...	...	...	132
(4) Housing Act 1930 ...	...	...	390
(5) Housing Act 1936 ...	...	...	105
			<hr/>
			1125

I. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	328
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1932	
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	...	—
(b) The number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—	
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	—	
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	...	185

(2)—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	151
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

(3)—*Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—*

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | | | | | |
| (a) By Owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—*

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | 34 |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | | | |
| (a) By owners | ... | ... | 31 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | ... | 3 |

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwellinghouses represented | ... | ... | — |
| (2) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | — |
| (3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertaking accepted and determined... | ... | ... | — |
| * Refers only to Housing defects. | | | |
| (4) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | — |

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | — |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | — |

No houses have been demolished during the year in confirmed clearance areas.

Housing Act, 1936 Part IV. Overcrowding.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year
(Exact number unknown). | 4 |
|---|---|

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	9
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	35
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	—			
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...		5
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	—

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

In the Borough there are approximately 405 back-to-back, 202 single, and 30 back-to-earth houses requiring attention under the Housing Act. These houses will inevitably form the basis of future slum Clearance Areas. Throughout the town there is a widespread lack of indoor sanitary accommodation, baths and hot and cold water.

Number of applicants for Corporation bungalows	...	...	194
" " " Corporation houses	...	...	449
No. of applicants at present sharing houses with other families			192

This list of applicants, though usually accepted as the measure of the need for new houses, does not take account of those people who may be in urgent need of rehousing owing to overcrowding or the worn-out condition of their house but who, for one reason or another, have not applied for a house. On the other hand, the list may be swollen by the names of those who would build their own house if they were allowed to do so.

The real need can only be assessed by each authority collecting reasonably accurate information as to the structure and composition of the population in its area and the physical condition of each and every house. This means a housing survey by every local authority throughout the country and the collection of any necessary information about the occupiers at the same time.

Particulars of Housing Schemes in hand or contemplated :—

Birtwistle Avenue Extension—20 houses in course of construction—14 three bedrooms and 6 two bedrooms types. A further 28 houses at the same site approved—24 three bedrooms and 4 four bedrooms types.

Colne Lane—16 flats (one bedroom type)—Completed and occupied—Site works almost completed.

Lob Common Estate—Houses, Shops, Schools, Nurseries. Playing Fields, etc.—Development Plan in course of preparation.

Section G

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK SUPPLY.

Sixty-four inspections were made of the milk producing farms, the milkshops and dairies, within the Borough.

On October 1st, 1949, the undermentioned Regulations came into force :—

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949,
Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Prior to this date one owner undertook structural alterations to his farm buildings, including the provision of a dairy and water bowls. Another owner provided a new cowshed floor, boskins, cement rendered the walls, and put in a ceiling.

There were no prosecutions under Milk and Dairies legislation.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

No. of Registered Cowkeepers (at 30/9/49)	82
„ of Butter Makers or Stock Rearers (at 30/9/49)	8
„ of Wholesale Milk Producers (at 30/9/49)	36
„ of Producer Retailers	38
„ of Purveyors only	51
„ of Purveyors from outside the Borough	27
Licensed Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Licensed Producers of Accredited Milk	3
Licensed Retailers of Pasteurised Milk	7
Licensed Retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk	12
Licensed Retailers of Sterilised Milk	33

SAMPLING.

(a) For Tubercle Bacilli in milk :—

No of samples submitted for biological test	47
Result—Positive	2
Negative	45

(b) Bacteriological Examinations :—

No. of samples examined	56
No. satisfactory	43
No. unsatisfactory	13

ICE CREAM.

MANUFACTURERS :

There are eight manufacturers of this commodity in the Borough, all of whom are using the hot-mix method. In one instance production is on a large scale, the remainder being medium and small traders supplying their own needs. Each manufacturer has separated the manufacture of ice cream from his domestic arrangements, providing two or more rooms for the purpose. Most manufacturers have modern equipment, which though not complete in every respect, is far advanced toward the standard desired, and all the premises concerned are satisfactory and specially designed for the purpose.

RETAILERS :

There are 31 retailers of ice cream in the Borough, 14 of these being for pre-packed ice cream. All these premises are visited as regularly as possible.

QUALITY AND CLEANLINESS :

Eight samples were taken and analysed for quality, the average fat content being 3.1%.

Thirteen samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. According to the provisional standards of cleanliness suggested by the Ministry of Health (Grades I to IV), the samples were graded as follows :—

Grade I	...	...	...	7
„ II	...	...	...	1
„ III	...	...	...	2
„ IV	...	...	...	3

Altogether 52 visits were paid to ice cream premises.

FOOD POISONING.

There were no outbreaks during the year, one single case only being notified. The agent identified was *Salmonella*, and the patient, a boy, 13 years of age, was detained in hospital for 28 days before he recovered. Despite extensive enquiries the cause remains unknown.

FACTORY CANTEENS AND RESTAURANT KITCHENS.

Requests were made for reports on 4 factory canteens by the Food Executive Officer, prior to the granting of a Catering Licence. These premises were approved. Extensive alterations were requested in respect of one hotel kitchen, and the necessary work was put in hand before the end of the year.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

Free washing facilities have been provided at Colne Lane Public Conveniences. They have been well received and are being properly used. A circular letter has been issued to local traders making food deliveries, and also to a large number of wholesalers bringing food into the town. These facilities replace paid-for washing facilities for both sexes.

The adoption of Bye-laws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and the sale of food in the open-air, is under active consideration.

MEAT INSPECTION.

HOME-KILLED MEAT.

From January, 1940, the Ministry of Food took over the Public Abattoir as a slaughtering centre for Colne, Nelson, Barrowford, Trawden and Foulridge. The Wholesale Meat Supply Association also uses the abattoir as a Depot for the distribution of imported meat.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the Public Abattoir during 1949 were as follows :—

Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Total
2954	9651	109	1700	14414

In addition 233 cottagers' pigs were slaughtered in private slaughter-houses and own premises by registered slaughtermen. All but 29 of these were inspected.

IMPORTED MEAT.

The following quantity of Imported Meat was distributed from the Abattoir during the year :—

Quarters Beef	...	...	...	...	...	4572
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	25400
Bags of Beef and Pork	...	...	...	...	...	619
Sides of Pork	...	...	...	...	...	310
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	51
Cases of Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	2068
Cases and Bags of Offal	...	...	...	...	...	1594

Total nett weight ... 957 tons 5 cwts. 2 qtrs. 20 lbs.

The above figures include a very small proportion of home-killed meat slaughtered at other abattoirs and forwarded to Colne Abattoir for distribution along with Imported Meat by the Wholesale Meat Supply Association.

MEAT AND FOOD CONDEMNED.

MEAT :—				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	
BEASTS								
Carcases (64)	...	...	...	12	1	3	14
Portions of Beef (36)	...	...	...	1	1	1	14
Heads (373)...								
Livers (627)...	}							
Lungs (793)...								
Mesenteries (183)		...	...	12	1	0	10
Udders (957)								
Stomachs (110)								
Other Offal								
CALVES								
Carcases (15)	...	...	...	—	4	3	14
Portions of Veal (1)	...	...	...	—	—	—	7
Heads (15)	}							
Livers (15)		—	—	2	11
Lungs (15)								
PIGS								
Carcases (7)...	...	...	...	—	11	1	23
Portions of Pork (2)	...	...	...	—	—	1	19
Heads (19) ...	}							
Livers (18) ...								
Lungs (15) ...		...	...	—	4	3	9
Chitterlings (31)								
SHEEP								
Carcases (22)	...	...	...	—	5	0	12
Heads (30)	}							
Livers (388)		—	8	3	16
Lungs (25)								
CORNERED BEEF								
87 x 6lb. Tins	...	...	...	—	4	2	18
Total				27	5	0	27	

Tuberculous meat condemned (Included in previous total):—

				Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
BEASTS							
Carcases (54)	...	...	...	10	8	3	11
Parts of Carcases (19)	...	...	...	—	12	3	1
CALVES							
Carcases (6) (Congenital T.B.)	...			—	2	3	14
PIGS							
Carcases (6)...	...	...	...	—	10	1	2
Parts of Carcases (2)	...	...	...	—	—	1	19
				11	15	0	19

					Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
OTHER FOOD CONDEMNED 1949.								
Milk	...	...	...	906 tins	—	8	—	10
Meat	...	...	..	46 "	—	—	1	17
Fish	...	..	...	49 "	—	—	1	13
Vegetables	...	...	...	271 "	—	2	3	15
Soups	...	...	...	39 "	—	—	1	10
Jam and Marmalade	...	...	...	51 "	—	—	1	22
Fruit	...	...	...	219 "	—	3	0	25
Drinking Choc. and								
Malted Milk	...	...	...	595 "	—	2	2	—
Mayonnaise	...	...	...	720 jars	—	2	—	—
Oranges	...	...	...	...	—	3	—	—
Fish	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	21
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	—	1	2	—
Butter	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	4
Dried Egg	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	14
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	—	2	1	18
Total					1	9	3	1

There were on the Registers of the Department :—

Butchers' Shops	...	...	..	...	...	...	34
Fried Fish Shops	19
Cooked Meat Shops	25

Private Slaughterhouses :—

No. Licensed	4
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BAKEHOUSES.

No. on Register	38
No. of Inspections	65
Nuisances found	1

ADULTERATION OF FOOD AND DRUGS.

The Local Authority became a Food and Drugs Authority as from October 1st, 1939, and the following samples were purchased during 1949.—

FORMAL :—

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	48
Milk "Appeal to Cow."	...	...	...	...	...	3
Carbonated Heavy Magnesia Powder	...	...	...	...	...	1
Best Jamaica Ginger	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ground Almond Substitute	...	...	...	...	...	1
Iced Cake	..	...	...	...	...	1
Madeira Cake	...	...	...	...	...	1
Magnesium Oxide (Heavy)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whisky	...	...	...	...	...	3

INFORMAL :—

Ice Cream	8
Confectionery (Flour)	16
Beer	3
Milk	2
Vegetable Oil	2
Salad Cream	2
Sweet Fat	2
Soda Mints	1
Quinine Tablets	1
Turmeric	1
Genuine White Pepper	1
Carbonated Light Magnesia Powder	1
Blended Cooking Oil	1
Sweepfat	1
Pure Olive Oil	1
Butter Toffee	1
Candied Peel	1
Condensed Milk	1
Custard Powder	1
Total	107

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Article.	Formal or Informal.	Nature of Adulteration.	Observations.
Turmeric	Informal	Contained excessive amount of siliceous matter.	No further stocks available
Sultana Cake	Informal	Contained 10% oil of paraffin nature.	Formal sample taken later—Genuine
Milk	Formal	6 $\frac{2}{3}$ % deficient of milk fat.	Prosecuted
Milk	Formal	Contained a small amount of extraneous water.	Further samples to be taken
Milk	Formal	3.2% added water.	Vendor warned
Milk	Formal	2.9% extraneous water.	Further samples to be taken
Milk	Formal	26 $\frac{2}{3}$ % deficient of milk fat.	Prosecuted
Ground Almond Substitute	Formal	Oil content 7.8%.	Prosecuted

PROCEEDINGS INSTITUTED UNDER FOOD
AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Article.	Default or Offence.	Result.	Fines.	Costs.
Milk	6 $\frac{2}{3}$ % deficient of milk fat	Conviction	£5	£2 9 0
Milk	26 $\frac{2}{3}$ % deficient of milk fat	Conviction	£2	£1 14 0
Ground Almond Substitute ...	Oil content 7.8%	Case dismissed		

The percentage of adulterated samples to samples taken is 7.4

In conclusion, my thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and to you, Sir, for continued encouragement and support for the work of the environmental health services of the town. To all members of the department I say thank you for your interest, help and loyal service during the past year.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

S. CAYTON.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

